

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 156132
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 SSM-03 /096 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:CMONROE:PDW
APPROVED BY NEA:HHS SAUNDERS
NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
-----002969 201451Z /50

P R 201434Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156132

FOR CHARGE FROM NEA - SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, US, JO

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR SALAH'S MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SAUNDERS: MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS

1. JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR SALAH MET WITH SAUNDERS ON AFTER-
NOON OF JUNE 19 AT FORMER'S REQUEST TO DISCUSS GENERAL
MIDDLE EASTERN DEVELOPMENTS. SALAH MENTIONED IMPORTANCE OF
CURRENT JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION MEETINGS, EMPHASIZING BIN
SHAKER'S KEY ROLE AS ADVISER AND CLOSE FRIEND TO HUSSEIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 156132

2. SALAH EXPRESSED HIS GENERAL CONCERN THAT EVENTS WERE
NOT PROGRESSING VERY FAST IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND WONDERED
WHAT THE NEXT STEPS MIGHT BE IN THE WAKE OF THE ISRAELI
"RECLAMA" (IN HIS VIEW NOT A SATISFACTORY REPLY) TO THE U.S.
QUESTIONS. SAUNDERS INDICATED THAT WE WOULD NOT BE SAYING
ANYTHING IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO CHARACTERIZE THE ISRAELI
RESPONSE AND THAT WE WOULD BE WORKING TO GET THE NEGOTIA-

TIONS STARTED AGAIN, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ISRAELI STATEMENT AS AN INDICATOR OF THEIR NEGOTIATING POSTURE AND NOT THE FINAL OUTCOME TO THE NEGOTIATIONS. SAUNDERS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING THE JORDANIANS INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS AT THE PROPER TIME, RECOGNIZING THAT CERTAIN STEPS WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THAT TO OCCUR.

3. SALAH ALSO ASKED ABOUT THE "AMERICAN PLAN" IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, STATING HIS HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE ONE LEST THE PEACE INITIATIVE BE LOST. SALAH SAID THAT LAST FALL WE HAD BEEN ONLY A SMALL STEP AWAY FROM A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. THEN THE MOMENTUM STARTED TO DECLINE AND THERE SEEMED TO ENSUE CONTINUOUS DELAYS. SAUNDERS SAID THAT HE SHARED THE SENTIMENT THAT THE PEACE MOMENTUM NOT BE LOST, BUT THERE WERE UNAVOIDABLE DELAYS, SUCH AS THE ISRAELI ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND THE TIME INVOLVED FOR THE AIRCRAFT PACKAGE.

4. SALAH INDICATED THAT HE WAS HAPPY THAT TIME HAD BEEN LOST FOR THE AIRCRAFT PACKAGE (GIVEN THE OUTCOME). SALAH COMMENTED ON THE EDUCATION PROCESS THAT WAS GOING ON FOR THE AMERICAN PUBLIC, AND BELIEVED THAT THE SUCCESS ACHIEVED IN THE AIRCRAFT PACKAGE WAS AN INDICATION OF THAT PROCESS. INITIALLY, AND THEN AGAIN IN CLOSING, SALAH PRAISED THE SAUNDERS STATEMENT BEFORE THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST FOR BOTH ITS CLARITY AND COMPREHENSIVE NATURE, AND INQUIRED AS TO HOW IT HAD BEEN RECEIVED ON THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 156132

HILL. SAUNDERS INDICATED THAT WE HAD RECEIVED NO NEGATIVE COMMENTS ON IT, AND THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF THE APPROACH.

5. SALAH INQUIRED INTO THE UPCOMING VISIT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE TO ISRAEL AND ASKED IF HE WOULD BE CARRYING ANY POLITICAL MESSAGE. SAUNDERS, WHILE INDICATING THAT ANY HIGH-LEVEL VISIT HAS CERTAIN POLITICAL OVERTONES, STRESSED THE BILATERAL AND CEREMONIAL NATURE OF THE VISIT IN CONNECTION WITH ISRAEL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY.

6. WE ASSUME AMBASSADOR'S CALL WAS IN THE NATURE OF A DELAYED COURTESY CALL AND THAT HE SIMPLY USED THE RECENT ISRAELI RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTIONS AS THE PEG ON WHICH TO HANG THE CONVERSATION.

CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE156132
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CMONROE:PDW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780256-1270
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780639/aaaabhwv.tel
Line Count: 111
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 66974685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2278185
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR SALAH'S MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS: MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PGOV, US, JO
To: AMMAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/66974685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014